

**Biology 621**  
**Graduate Core Seminar**

**Spring 2016**  
**R 5:30-7:00**

Instructor: Craig Plante  
Office: 104 GML  
E-mail: [plantec@cofc.edu](mailto:plantec@cofc.edu)  
Phone: 843-953-9187  
Office Hours: T noon-2:00, F 11:00-noon, or by appt.

The objectives of this seminar are to:

1. Facilitate your entry to the GPMB through discussions about program deadlines, conducting and communicating scientific research, finding funding, etc.
2. Gain an understanding of the ethical issues confronting (marine) scientists
3. Attempt to understand the "culture" and responsibilities of modern research and science
4. Develop and present a preliminary research proposal for your GPMB thesis research

The course will consist of participatory discussions, case studies, and student seminars. Also, a bit of lecture, and hopefully a guest speaker or two.

Text: *On Being a Scientist: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in Research*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., National Academy of Science, 2009.

Schedule:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
Jan 7	Introduction & Business	
Jan 14	Standards & Values in Science, Treatment of Data	1-11
Jan 21	Negligence, Misconduct Lab Safety, IRB/IACUC	12-28
Jan 28	Publication, Credit, Authorship, Science & Society	29-49
Feb 4	Writing Theses, Manuscripts	
Feb 11	Writing II and/or GSO Poster Session	
Feb 18	Poster Presentations Workshop ( <b>TBD</b> )	
Feb 25	TBD	
Mar 3	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Mar 10	<b>Spring Break</b>	
Mar 17	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Mar 24	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Mar 31	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	
Apr 7	Panel: The Oral Comprehensive Exam ( <b>Dr. Mike Janech</b> )	
Apr 14	Pre-proposal Seminars: _____	

**Grading:** Course grade will be determined by 1) attendance & participation in discussions (each absence after the first results in 1 pt. reduction on 4 pt. scale), 2) attendance at FJ seminars (each absence after one results in 0.5 pt reduction on 3 pt scale), and 3) Pre-proposal Seminars (based on 3 pt. scale: 3 = complete and clear presentation of project background and research plan, 2 = presentation can be followed but insufficient background knowledge, significant issues with clarity, thought process, etc., 1 = completed presentation but serious deficiencies, such that proposed work is not justified, won't work, was incomprehensible, 0 = no presentation). Final grade will be calculated on 10 pt. scale.